

# PUNCH

## COMICS

NO.13  
10¢

HARRY A. CHESLER JR.  
WORLD'S  
Greatest  
COMICS

THOSE  
WHO HAVE  
DEFIED  
THE  
SKELETON

J. G. TUSKA  
Z. GUS RICCA  
E. D. EPPERS  
AFRAN SMITH  
S. ?



# WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM



CHEATING THE ELECTRIC CHAIR IS A TOUGH TASK AS ANY KILLER WILL TELL YOU ~RAY CARDELL, PARK AVENUE PLAYBOY, DIDN'T AROUSE UNDERWORLD SUSPICION WHEN HE IDENTIFIED A DEAD MAN WHOM HE HAD NEVER BEFORE SEEN, BECAUSE GANGDOM DIDN'T SUSPECT THAT RAY WAS REALLY THE MASTER KEY IN DISGUISE! ~ BUT THE MASTER KEY'S LIFE HUNG BY A THREAD WHEN HE HEARD A COUGH FROM THE COFFIN OF A KILLER!



# MASTER KEY

OKAY, BOSS,  
THE COAST  
IS CLEAR!  
KEEP YOUR  
HAND ON YOUR  
COAST ARTILLERY,  
MACK. AFTER  
WHAT HAPPENED  
LAST NIGHT, CERTAIN  
PEOPLE WOULD LIKE  
TO PUT ME OUT  
OF BUSINESS!

OH, GOOD  
EVENING,  
MISTER  
KARLEY!  
WASN'T IT  
AWFUL ABOUT  
JAKE ZIGSWORT  
DYIN' SO  
SUDDEN?

PNEUMONIA  
WAS A MORE  
COMFORTABLE  
WAY THAN  
THE CHAIR,  
BABY!

RAY! THAT  
MAN'S GOT  
A GUN! HE'S  
GOING TO  
SHOOT J.B.  
KARLEY!

DIVE TO THE  
FLOOR—  
MARCIA! I'M  
GRABBING  
THAT  
GUNSEL!



DUCK, EVERYBODY! IN A  
SECOND, THIS PLACE IS  
GOING TO BE WORSE  
THAN GUADALCANAL!

THIS TIME, THE  
FINGER'S ON  
YOU, J.B.!

DROP THAT  
GUN, YOU  
IDIOT!



THIS IS A  
RESPECTABLE  
CLUB, JERK!  
KILL YOUR  
FRIENDS  
ELSEWHERE!

BUDDY—  
YOU'RE GONNA  
DIE FOR  
INTERFERING  
WITH MY  
BUSINESS!

SPEED HERNAN!  
KILL THE RAT,  
MACK! WE  
CAN CALL IT  
SELF-DEFENSE!

WITH  
PLEASURE,  
BOSS—  
WITH  
PLEASURE!  
TAKE  
THIS, PUNK!

AAAAH!!  
YOU DIRTY  
—ER— OH—  
OFF YOUR  
BODYGUARD,  
YOU KILLED HIM!



RAY CARDELL IS MAD-- DEFINITELY! GOING TO THE RESCUE OF J. B. KARLEY, A CHEAP, CROOKED POLITICIAN!

TAKE IT, EASY-- MARCIA! YOUR PLAYBOY FRIEND HASN'T BEEN IN THE HEADLINES FOR WEEKS. GIVE HIM A BREAK!

SPORTING OF YOU, MR. CARDELL, AND THANKS. HERNAN ACCUSED ME OF HIRING JAKE ZIGSWORT TO KILL HIS PARTNER, ED VOGT. HERNAN WERE THE TOWN'S BIGGEST RACETRACK BOOKIES. YOU TAKING OVER, J.B?

ME- A BOOKMAKER? LOOK, CARDELL, YOU KNOW MY RECORD'S CLEAN. AS ALDERMAN FROM THE FIFTH DISTRICT, I'M A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF LAW AND ORDER!

DON'T HORSE AROUND, BOSS. HERNAN'S SLUG CHIPPED YOUR COLLARBONE. YOU NEED A DOC!

OKAY, MACK, ER-- MR. CARDELL. THIS IS MACK RUANE, MY BODYGUARD.

BODYGUARD, HUH? I THINK J.B. EXPECTED TO FIND SPEED HERNAN HERE. YES! VERY CONVENIENT WAY TO GET RID OF HIM!

I TOLD YOU NOT TO KILL HIM, DARLING! IF THE COPS FIND JAKE IN THE MORGUE, WE'LL ALL GET THE CHAIR. I'M GONNA FAINT-- I CAN'T FACE--

PLEASE, SISTER! UH? OH! I SEE!!

IS THIS YOUR IDEA OF FUN-- MR. CARDELL? WELL, I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU!

BUT, MARCIA, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! THIS IS DOLORES DUGAN, J.B.'S PAPER DOLL. SHE'S OFF HER TROLLEY!

RAY CARDELL WAITS FOR THE ARRIVAL OF THE POLICE~

WE'LL TAKE YOUR WORD FOR IT-- BUT DON'T OPEN YOUR MOUTH TO THE REPORTERS!

YOU CAN TRUST ME, INSPECTOR!

THE PAPERS WILL TIE THIS UP WITH VOGT'S MURDER. ARE THE COPS TRYING TO COVER UP FOR J.B.?

CITY HOSPITAL  
MORTUARY, DRIVER!  
--AND STEP ON IT!

DOLORES BLURTED OUT--  
"IF THE COPS FIND JAKE IN  
THE MORGUE--" BUT THAT'S  
WHERE HE'S SUPPOSED  
TO BE-- IF HE DIED  
OF PNEUMONIA AND  
NO ONE CLAIMED  
HIS BODY!

WHAT'S YOUR  
RUSH, MISTER?  
THERE AINT NO  
PHONE BOOTHS  
IN THIS JOINT!

UH? ER--  
LAY OFF,  
MISTER, BUD--  
I'VE GOT TO  
IDENTIFY  
A BODY  
INSIDE!

ACTS LIKE HE WUZ  
TELLIN' THE TRUTH.  
J. B. WOULD TIP ME  
IF THE COPS SMELLED  
A RAT AFTER TONIGHT'S  
RUN IN WITH HERNAN!

I WANT TO  
CHECK ON  
THE BODIES.  
MY BROTHER  
IS MISSING  
THREE DAYS  
AND --

POLICE  
DEPARTMENT  
DIDN'T PHONE  
ME YOU WERE  
COMING--  
MISTER, BUT  
I GUESS IT'S  
ALL RIGHT--

THE ATTENDANT SHOWS RAY  
SEVENTEEN BODIES, BUT NOT ONE  
RESEMBLES JAKE ZIGSWORT.

DIDN'T YOU  
OVERLOOK  
THIS CORPSE?  
LET ME  
SEE IT!

GET AWAY!  
POLICE ORDER'S  
THAT NOBODY  
TOUCH THAT BODY!

AS THE ATTENDANT TURNS, THE  
MASTER KEY'S X-RAY BEAM  
FLASHES THROUGH THE PANEL

NOW-- COME ON--  
MISTER, THERE  
GOES MY PHONE!

OKAY, I THINK  
I'VE SEEN  
ENOUGH!

FIND YOUR FRIEND IN THERE, MISTER?

UH-- NO LUCK, MAC. HE MUST'VE JUMPED OFF A BRIDGE!

--AND WHILE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT OF BRIDGES, MY GOOD FELLOW--

HEY! WATCH YOURSELF, BUD! DON'T TRY--

YES-- AFTER YOU'VE ANSWERED MY QUESTIONS, YOUR DENTIST CAN MAKE YOU SOME BRIDGework!

ALDERMAN J. B. KARLEY HAS INFLUENCE, I SEE! JAKE ZIGSWORT WILL CATCH PNEUMONIA ON THAT SLAB. WHO SIGNED HIS PHONY DEATH CERTIFICATE?

--DOC LAPHAM, --THE CORONER. KARLEY GOT HIM APPOINTED. BUT DON'T TURN ME IN, CHUM. I'LL LEAVE TOWN TONIGHT!

EARLY THE NEXT MORNING, IN J. B. KARLEY'S DUPLEX APARTMENT

SULLY DOESN'T ANSWER AND YUH HE'D SKIP TOWN, BOSS, WHEN THE HEAT WAS ON! YOU'D BETTER STUFF JAKE IN A COFFIN AND GIVE HIM A FUNERAL!

YOU THINK WE CAN GET AWAY WITH BURYING JAKE ALIVE?

WHO'S GONNA STOP US? WITH HIM OUTTA THE WAY, WE'LL BE RUNNING EVERY RACETRACK BOOK IN TOWN, BOSS!

RAY CARDELL IS AN EARLY VISITOR AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS.

KEEP YOUR EYE ON DOC LAPHAM, INSPECTOR. YOU'LL GET A CALL FROM THE MASTER KEY ABOUT HIM!

WE WANTED JAKE ZIGSWORT FOR MURDERING ED VOGT. IF JAKE DIDN'T DIE LIKE YOU SAID, DOC...

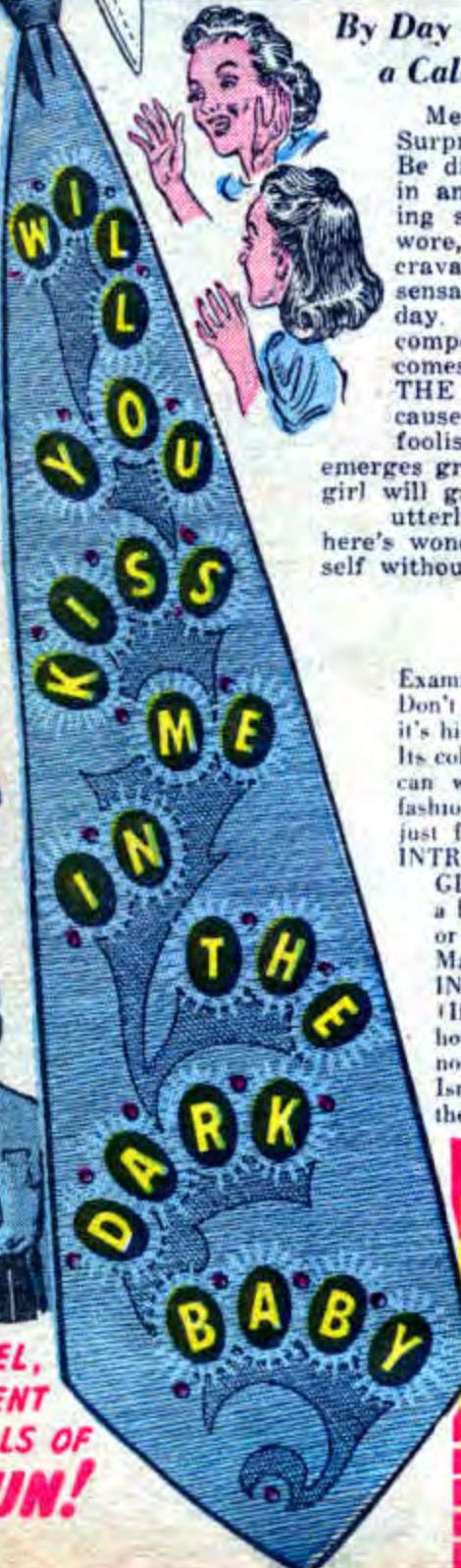
DON'T LISTEN TO HIM-- INSPECTOR! HE'S WHACKY!



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**A SMART  
TIE BY DAY**



**A MAGIC  
TIE AT  
NIGHT**



**IT'S NOVEL,  
DIFFERENT  
BARRELS OF  
FUN!**

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